United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Nevada Ag Stats Newsletter

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Released: December 7, 2012

Annual Bulletin

The Nevada Agricultural Statistics 2012 Bulletin is now available and can be downloaded for free from our website at **www.nass.usda.gov/nv.** This annual publication contains state level data on crop and livestock production through 2011.

Help Grow Your Farm Future

In just a few weeks, America's farmers and ranchers will have the opportunity to make a positive impact on their communities by taking part in the Census of Agriculture. Conducted every five years by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Census captures a complete count of all U.S. farms, ranches and those who operate them.

Census data is used by all those who serve farmers and rural communities from federal, state and local governments to agribusinesses and trade associations. Companies and cooperatives can use the information to determine the locations of facilities that will serve agricultural producers. Often legislators use the information when shaping farm policies and programs. And, of course, Nevada farmers and ranchers can use Census data to help make informed decisions about the future of our own operations.

As preparations continue for this year's Census of Agriculture, we call on farmers and ranchers to share their stories, ask questions and talk to their fellow producers about this critical effort. Your answers to the Census help grow your farm future; shape farm programs; and boost services for you, your community and your industry.

NASS will mail out Census forms in late December, and responses are due by February 4th, 2013. Producers also have the option to complete their forms online. After all, the Census is your voice, your future and your responsibility. For more information about the Census, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov or call 1-888-4AG-STAT (1-888-424-7828).

For more information, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov. The Census of Agriculture is your voice, your future, your responsibility.

2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE
YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

Respond by February 4th, 2013
www.agcensus.usda.gov

Hired Workers

Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 872,000 for the reference week of October 7-13, 2012, up more than 5 percent from the October 2011 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of $11.76 per hour during the October 2012 reference week, up over 5 percent from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of $11.22 per hour, up over 6 percent from a year earlier. Livestock workers earned $10.83, up 16 cents. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at $11.13 per hour, was up 56 cents from a year earlier. The number of hours worked averaged 41.5 for hired workers during the reference week, nearly the same as hours worked in October 2011.

For the October reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia) region followed by the Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) region. Strong demand for tobacco, field crop, and livestock workers was seen in Appalachian II and increased demand in Northeast II across many farm types.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri) region followed by California. In Cornbelt II, early harvest of principle crops meant less workers in the field during the reference week this year and California saw decreases in hired worker demand from primarily nurseries and fruit and nut operations.

Hired worker wage rates were above the previous year rates in the majority of regions. The largest increases occurred in the Pacific (Oregon and Washington) region followed by the Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) region. The field and livestock worker wage was up substantially in the Pacific region. Increases in the wage rate for field and livestock workers, plus a slight increase in the proportion of supervisory and other workers, were seen in the Mountain III region.

Hay Prices

Nevada: The all hay price, at $209.00 per ton, is up $9.00 from October and down $13.00 from last November. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at $210.00 per ton, up $8.00 from October and down $15.00 from a year ago. All other hay, at $185.00 per ton, is up $5.00 from October and up $10.00 from a year ago.

United States: The all hay price, at $193 per ton, is unchanged from October but up $19.00 from last November. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures came in at $215.00 per ton, up $3.00 from October. All other hay at $144.00 per ton, is down $2.00 from last month.

Hay Prices Received by Type measured in $ per Ton – Select States & United States: November 2012

State	All Hay			Alfalfa Hay			Other Hay[1]		
	Nov. 2011	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Nov. 2011	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012	Nov. 2011	Oct. 2012	Nov. 2012
Arizona	232.00	191.00	196.00	235.00	190.00	195.00	185.00	215.00	215.00
California	227.00	206.00	205.00	239.00	209.00	212.00	185.00	194.00	180.00
Idaho	231.00	195.00	197.00	236.00	200.00	200.00	150.00	140.00	140.00
Nevada	**222.00**	**200.00**	**209.00**	**225.00**	**202.00**	**210.00**	**175.00**	**180.00**	**185.00**
Oregon	221.00	221.00	213.00	240.00	232.00	222.00	190.00	205.00	200.00
Utah	187.00	183.00	179.00	187.00	187.00	182.00	150.00	147.00	147.00
United States	174.00	193.00	193.00	193.00	212.00	215.00	124.00	146.00	144.00

[1] Other hay is comprised of grain and grain mixtures, timothy, clover, wild, prairie, range, and other types.

Fall Potato Production Forecast

Fall potatoes: Production of fall potatoes for 2012 is forecast at 422 million cwt, up 8 percent from last year. Area harvested, at 991,500 acres, is slightly above the September 1 forecast and 6 percent above the 2011 estimate. The average yield forecast, at 426 cwt per acre, is up 10 cwt from last year's yield.

In Idaho, growing conditions were favorable, leading to a yield that if realized will be the highest on record. Total potato production is forecast to be the second highest on record. Record high yields are also forecast in North Dakota and Massachusetts. Favorable spring weather and adequate water supplies benefitted both the North Dakota and Massachusetts potato crops. In Michigan, growers reported good yields despite the high temperatures and dry conditions experienced during the summer. Data for Nevada potato production were not released due to disclosure issues.

Agricultural Statistics: A Historical Timeline

Part 1: 1776 - 1838

1776: The Continental Congress offers land grants for service in the Continental Army

1788: The Constitution of the United States is ratified and George Washington becomes the first President of the United States.

1791: George Washington, one of the earliest compilers of information on American agriculture, corresponds with land holders for information on farmland prices, commodity prices and crop yields at the request of an Englishman named Arthur Young. (U.S. Population 1790: 3,929,625)

1793: Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin, a machine that quickly separates the cotton fiber from the seed.

1796: President George Washington proposes to establish a National Board of Agriculture based on four principles: 1. The Board has at least 10 and no more than 30 members. 2. Members are from both Washington, D.C. and the field. 3. Members are knowledgeable about the agricultural industry. 4. The board disseminates information to all parties equally. Although a congressional committee agrees with Washington's proposal, Congress does not act.

1803: During Thomas Jefferson's presidency, the United States purchases 828,800 square miles of land claimed by France in a transaction known as the Louisiana Purchase.
(U.S. Population 1800: 5,308,483)

1805: Cotton replaces tobacco as the chief southern crop. Lower costs associated with the production of wheat and meat in the western areas encourage New England farmers to produce dairy, fruits, vegetables and tobacco.

1807: The Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, established in 1792, publishes inquires relating to production per acre, number of animals and agricultural prices. Other states establish agricultural societies to improve agricultural production practices.

1819: The U.S. Department of the Treasury instructs consuls to collect seeds, plants, and agricultural inventions. It publishes data on agricultural imports and exports, but not on domestic production.
(U.S. Population 1810: 7,239,881)

1820: The U.S. House of Representatives creates the Agricultural Committee.
(U.S. Population 1820: 9,638,453)

1825: Completion of the Erie Canal accelerates the development of the agricultural lands in western New York and the Ohio Valley. The U.S. Senate creates the Agriculture Committee.

1830: The railroad era begins, speeding up agricultural production in the Mississippi Valley and later in the Great Plains.
(U.S. Population 1830: 12,866,020)

1837: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts conducts the Massachusetts Agricultural Survey over a four-year period. Agricultural data are collected for each county in the state.

1838: President Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States, proposes to establish a Bureau of Agriculture. As a result of this proposal, agricultural data are collected for the first time in the 1840 Census of Agriculture.

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Nevada Ag Stats is a monthly newsletter published by the
Nevada Agricultural Statistics Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
Inquiries may be directed to Martin J. Owens, Director, Nevada Agricultural Statistics Service
This publication is also available on the web at www.nass.usda.gov/nv/

November Weather Summary

Temperatures were warmer than average for this time of year. Las Vegas recorded the monthly high of 83 degrees. Ely recorded the lowest temperature of the month at 4 degrees. Precipitation was below normal. Reno recorded the most precipitation with 0.85 inches. Livestock marketing and movement was active. Seasonal onions were being taken to sheds for sorting, bagging, and shipping. Industry meetings were common. Main farm and ranch activities include: equipment maintenance and planting of fall-seeded crops.

Weather data for stations in Nevada: November 2012

Station	Temperature (°F)				Precipitation (inches)		
	Monthly Avg.	Departure from Normal	High	Low	Monthly Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24 Hour
Reno	45.7	+3.0	75	18	0.85	+0.03	0.42
Elko	39.7	+5.0	71	12	0.40	-0.71	0.14
Ely	39.8	+6.1	72	4	0.47	-0.23	0.47
Winnemucca	40.4	+3.5	72	6	0.19	-0.69	0.09
Eureka	40.1	+5.5	73	7	0.25	-0.53	0.13
Tonopah	43.9	+3.8	72	14	0.18	-0.26	0.18
Las Vegas	60.1	+3.7	83	37	Trace	-0.36	Trace